

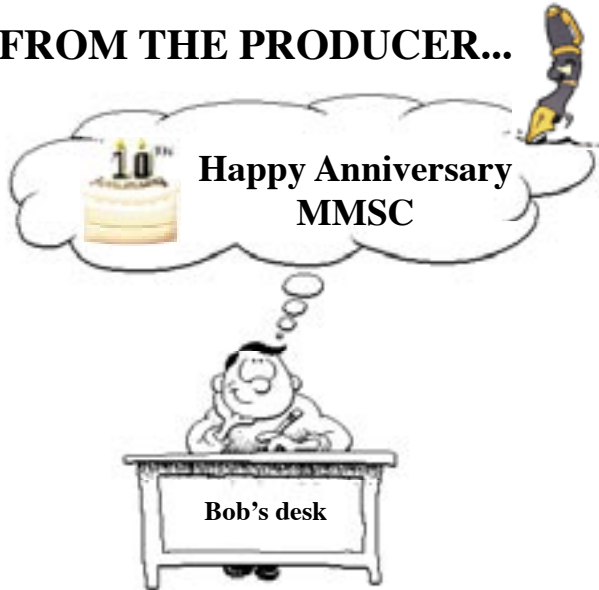
PROLOGUE

News from Mohonk Mountain Stage Company

September 2004 - Vol. #9, Issue #7 Robert G. Miller, Producing Director

Our Tenth Anniversary!

FROM THE PRODUCER...



We are delighted to open MMSC's second decade with one of our most rewarding and worthwhile projects, **The Vanguard Voices Project: Nurturing New Playwrights**. This is the third year of our collaboration with the SUNY New Paltz Dramatic Writing Program to develop new plays written by talented SUNY students and alumni. We are proud that our partnership with the college continues to grow. This year the performances will take place at Parker Theater, on SUNY's campus, thanks to the generosity of the Theatre Department. This project has also received support from the English Department, the Office of Alumni Affairs and from Dean Gerald Benjamin of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

In addition to this inspiring program, we will follow Hamlet's dictum "the play's the thing" by offering five different dramatic works, including Arthur Miller's **The Price**, a brand new work (**Scrabble & Tabouli**) written by our own resident playwright, Laurence Carr, and the Hudson Valley premieres of three plays that even I had not heard of two months ago (**Humble Boy**, **Three Viewings** and **God's Man In Texas**.)

Lest we offend Terpsichore, Muse of Poetry and Dance, our season is filled with verse. We will be

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Nurturing New Playwrights - Our Third Annual Vanguard Voices Project

TWO PERFORMANCES ONLY!

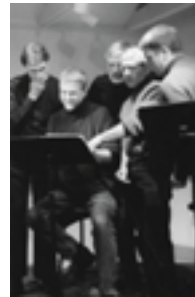
Saturday, September 11, 2004 @8 PM &

Sunday, September 12, 2004 @2 PM

Parker Theatre on SUNY New Paltz Campus

Admission: \$10; students with ID \$5

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Mohonk Mountain Stage Company's Tenth Anniversary Celebration Fall Season will kick off with the **Third Annual Vanguard Voices Project: Nurturing New Playwrights**, MMSC's presentation of new plays by current and graduate students in the State University of New York at New

Paltz's Dramatic Writing Program on Saturday, September 11 at 8 PM and Sunday, September 12 at 2 PM at Parker Theatre on SUNY's New Paltz campus.

MMSC's unique **Vanguard Voices Project** will, for the third year in a row, provide an invaluable workshop and performance experience for emerging playwrights, as they develop their new plays in a nurturing environment. Working with Robert G. Miller, MMSC's Producing Director, and Laurence Carr, MMSC Playwright in Residence and Head of the SUNY New Paltz Dramatic Writing Program, four young playwrights were selected from the best of SUNY's Dramatic Writing classes. Each play was cast with a company of MMSC's most versatile actors, each was rehearsed and revised in this constructive workshop setting, and each will be premiered at Parker Theatre before eager MMSC audiences.

MMSC's mission is to provide a performance format for actors, directors, playwrights and audiences whose passions for theater and new work intersect. MMSC's Readers Theatre is a performance style where the "word," and all concomitant ideas, purposes, and realizations, become the sole focus. It is

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Nurturing New Playwrights -

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a natural extension of MMSC's mission and performance style to support the **Vanguard Voices Project** which has been designed to nurture new playwrights and to provide a forum for these young writers who are creating theatrical, potent and entertaining new American stories.

The **Vanguard Voices Project** is also an opportunity for Hudson Valley audiences to experience the development of new theatrical work. Audiences will have the opportunity to hear new work from this group of playwrights who are at varying stages in their early careers. Taken as a whole, these works represent the diverse genres, cultures, and theatrical vocabularies of the American theater scene.

Selected for production in our **Vanguard Voices Project 2004** are:

- **The Letters** by Michael Bonet
- **Minor Details** by Eliza Murray
- **Publisher's Block** by Jamie Gerardi
- **Marching Home Again** by Christopher Dumm

Readers for **Vanguard Voices Project 2004** are: Heather Berry, Jack Harris, Jack Kroll, Laura Love Kroll, Sean Marrinan, RoseMarie Navarra, and Bruce Pileggi. All pieces will be directed by Robert G. Miller, with Laurence Carr serving as dramaturg for the project.

A vital part of the project will be the "Talk Back" session which will follow each performance; these young playwrights need to hear audience feedback. The process of writing a play or, indeed, becoming a good playwright is not an easy one and requires a nurturing atmosphere and the input of many "listeners" along the way.

Performances are Saturday, September 11 at 8 PM and Sunday, September 12 at 2 PM at SUNY's Parker Theatre on the SUNY Campus. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students with a valid ID. Reservations may be made by calling MMSC's offices at (845) 255-3102.



MMSC Theatre Scholarship Update another year & another young theatre artist is off to college

We are very pleased to announce that David Popieluszko is the recipient of the MMSC Theatre Scholarship for 2004. The Scholarship Award was made at the commencement ceremonies of New Paltz Central High School in June. David writes that he has been interested in stage lighting throughout his high school career and intends to study technical theatre at the college level. Good luck, David. Make us proud. A big "thank you" goes out to all MMSC audience members who contributed to the MMSC Theatre Scholarship Fund in the past year, either directly or through the purchase of a jar (or two or four) of Nan's Fancy Jams. Don't forget; it's summer and the delicious fruits of the summer season are now showing up in brand new NFJ flavors. Pick out a few for gifts but keep some for you. A portion of the proceeds from every jar benefits the MMSC Theatre Scholarship Fund and students like David. Nan's Fancy Jams are always on sale at all MMSC performances or on the MMSC web site at http://www.mmstageco.com/hot_topicsnfj2.html.



MMSC's Poetry Contest Is In Full Swing

The submission deadline to **MMSC's Poetry Contest** was extended to September 1, 2004 and the final submissions are being processed. All poetry entries will be reviewed by a panel of preliminary readers (William Connors, Don Wildy and Stella Deen,) with final judging by Barbara Adams. Stay tuned. The winners will be announced in early October and the second edition of MMSC's literary journal, *Vanguard Voices of the Hudson Valley*, containing the winners, will be available by the end of the year.



Preview: October 2, 2004
The Ordinary Living - The Work
of Barbara Adams

The publication of *The Ordinary Living*, Barbara Adams' most recent collection of poems, gives MMSC an opportunity to devote an entire evening to Adams' work: poetry, stories and essays published in magazines and anthologies since 1972. This program will evoke Adams' vivid voice and extensive range. Adams' writing arises from the "ordinary" events in a woman's life: love, marriage, parents, children, loss, work, joy, death, sexuality - the hallmarks of an identity that give life meaning. No conflict, no story. Adams' persona struggles with an Irish-Jewish heritage, career v. family, selfishness and love's compromises. Stay tuned. The October issue of **Prologue** will carry more details about this compelling program. In the meantime, save October 2nd on your calendar. Plan to come and hear this evening of the words of Barbara Adams.



Happy Anniversary - (cont. from pg. 1, col. 1) presenting an evening of the work of Barbara Adams in a program based on her most recently published volume, *The Ordinary Living*. Barbara is arranging and editing another evening for MMSC, **The Poetry of War**, and is also the final judge for our first ever poetry contest. Poets of the Hudson Valley have submitted their work for publication and performance by MMSC in an evening entitled **New York Writing**. We also intend to avoid offending Terpsichore by not even attempting to dance.

We will be performing an encore of one of our very first Readers Theater Group evenings. **The Short Stories of Henry James**, originally presented in 1995, formed the basis for our popular **Storied Word Series**. The original readers, Don Wildy and Elizabeth Askue, are still with us and are rarin' to read. Finally, closing out the fall season will be a joyous and nostalgic **Celebration of the Golden Age of Radio**.

Now ask yourself, would you rather spend your fall evenings in the company of intelligent, witty and thoughtful authors or dodging shrapnel from overblown rhetoric? We guarantee a Swift-Boat-Free Zone: no political posturing, pandering or pontificating. No brickbats, bullying or bombast. But we do promise to use big words, and to pronounce them properly.

So give your ears and mind a break from the quadrennial cacophony of the American democratic process by sharing an evening or two with us, a little **Art For The Ears**. Oh, and don't forget to vote!

Bob

The Storied Word Series
The Short Stories of
Henry James

*In honor of MMSC's
Tenth Anniversary Celebration,
please join us for this
encore performance from 1995.*



ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY!

Saturday, September 18, 2004 @ 8 PM
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church,
161 Main Street, New Paltz
Admission: \$7

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Straight from the archives comes this wonderful program from MMSC's popular **Storied Word Series**. First performed in 1995, this evening of Henry James short stories formed the basis for many **Storied Word** programs to come.

American-born writer, gifted with talents in literature, psychology, and philosophy, Henry James wrote 20 novels, 112 stories, 12 plays as well as a number of literary criticism essays. His models were Dickens, Balzac, and Hawthorne.

Henry James was born in New York City into a wealthy family. His father was one of the best-known intellectuals in mid-nineteenth-century America, whose friends included Thoreau, Emerson and Hawthorne.

Returning to recreate their original renditions of two Henry James stories are Elizabeth Askue (reading *The Real Thing*) and Don Wildy (reading *The Pupil*.) Come and see how it all began.



Don Wildy
Photo Credit: Martin Munster

www.mmstageco.com

For all up-to-date MMSC news!

PROLOGUE is written and edited by Christine Crawfis and Nan Alderson; Bob Miller is a contributing writer.
PROLOGUE is published by:

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Mohonk Mountain Stage Company
Fall '04 Season Schedule
MMSC's Special Tenth Anniversary Celebration Season

September

**Saturday, September 11 @ 8 PM and
Sunday, September 12 @ 2 PM**

Vanguard Voices: Nurturing Playwrights of the Future
Parker Theater on SUNY New Paltz Campus
Admission \$7; students with valid ID \$5

Saturday, September 18 @ 8 PM

The Storied Word Series:
The Short Stories of Henry James
(*The Real Thing* and *The Pupil*)
St. Andrew's Church, Main Street, New Paltz
Admission \$7

October

Saturday, October 2 @ 8 PM

The Ordinary Living - The Work of Barbara Adams
St. Andrew's Church, Main Street, New Paltz
Admission \$7

**Sat., Oct. 16, Thurs., Oct. 21, Fri.,
Oct. 22 & Sat., Oct. 23 @ 8 PM**

Humble Boy by Charlotte Jones
St. Andrew's Church, Main Street, New Paltz
Admission \$10

Friday, October 29 @ 8 PM

The Price by Arthur Miller
Unison Arts and Learning Center,
Mountain Rest Road, New Paltz
Admission \$9 for Unison members, \$12 for non-
members; students (with ID) \$5

November

Friday, November 5 @ 8 PM

The Poetry of War
Unison Arts and Learning Center,
Mountain Rest Road, New Paltz
Admission \$9 for Unison members and \$12 for non-
members; students (with ID) \$5

Saturday, November 6 @ 8 PM

Three Viewings by Jeffrey Hatcher
St. Andrew's Church, Main Street, New Paltz
Admission \$10

Saturday, November 13 @ 8 PM

Scrabble and Tabouli -
New Work From Laurence Carr
St. Andrew's Church, Main Street, New Paltz
Admission \$7

Saturday, November 20 @ 8 PM

God's Man In Texas by David Rambo
St. Andrew's Church, Main Street, New Paltz
Admission \$10

December

Saturday, December 4 @ 8 PM

New York Writing
(Including winners from the
2004 Vanguard Voices of the Hudson Valley
Poetry Contest)
St. Andrew's Church, Main Street, New Paltz
Admission \$7

**Friday and Saturday,
December 10 and 11 @ 8 PM**

A Celebration of Old Time Radio
Unison Arts and Learning Center,
Mountain Rest Road, New Paltz
Admission \$9 for Unison members, \$12 for non-
members; students (with ID) \$5